



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

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Global Agriculture Information Network

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Ireland

Biotechnology

Irish authorities issue alert over LL Rice 601

2006

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Report Highlights:

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland has issued instructions that imports of U.S. rice must be certified as free from GM products, in particular LL Rice 601.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
London [UK1]
[EI]

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) announced August 30th, that it is to implement a ban on the import of certain long grain rice products from the U.S., unless they are accompanied by certificates declaring them to be free of unauthorized GM rice.

This is a part of a EU-wide move in response to notification to the European Commission of the presence of unauthorized GM rice (LL Rice 601) in commercial varieties on the U.S. market. While the FSAI noted that there are no immediate food safety issues associated with the presence of this GM rice in the food chain, it stated that this rice has not been authorized for human consumption either in the U.S. or the EU and therefore should not be on the market.

Post understands that the Irish Customs Service has been alerted to the ban; and that only shipments of long-grain rice accompanied by proper certification will be allowed entry into Ireland. The FSAI will also check stocks of long grain rice, which originated in the U.S., to determine the presence of any unauthorized GM rice. If unauthorized GM rice is detected, the consignment will be removed from the market immediately.